

*ingii*, *Danthonia spicata*, var. *longipila*, *Hierochloe odorata*, *Sporobolus clandestinus*, *S. neglectus*, *S. vaginiflorus*, var. *inaequalis*, *Zizania aquatica* and var. *angustifolia*.

*Agrostis hyemalis* (*A. antecedens* Bickn.) has a coastal plain distribution in the eastern United States, but in the Mississippi Basin extends north to Illinois and west to Kansas and Oklahoma. *A. stolonifera*, var. *compacta* is most common along the coast, but has various scattered stations inland, particularly in Maine. *Calamagrostis Pickeringii* is confined to two small areas, in the White Mountain region of New Hampshire and the lower Merrimac valley in that state and in Massachusetts. *Hierochloe odorata* combines, curiously, a maritime with a calcicolous range; it could pass as generally distributed except for its absence from large acid-soil areas in central and western Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. *Sporobolus neglectus* occurs in the calcareous region of western New England, close to the boundary, from the Champlain valley to southern Connecticut, and at an isolated station in the valley of the Aroostook River in Maine. *Sporobolus vaginiflorus*, var. *inaequalis* is almost wholly confined between the northern boundary of Massachusetts and the forty-fifth parallel, a range very like that of *Alisma Plantago-aquatica*. *Zizania aquatica*, var. *angustifolia* has a similar distribution, but pushes farther north in the Penobscot valley. Typical *Z. aquatica* is found chiefly along the lower Kennebec, in eastern Massachusetts, in the lower Connecticut valley and in the Champlain valley. The other species here placed have too few and scattered stations to be classified.

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VERBENA PROSTRATA AN INVALID NAME.—Not long ago, as I was glancing casually over a bibliography of Professor Gaetano Savi, the following item attracted my attention:

*Verbena prostrata*. Memorie della Società Italiana. T. IX, p. 349, 7 Settembre 1801.

(Questa specie presentemente porta il nome di *Verbena bracteosa* statogli dato dal Michaux nel 1803.)

*Verbena prostrata* Savi was a new name to me. It is not listed in the Kew Index and I had not found it while working on A Revision

of the North American Species of Verbena in Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. xx. 239-363 (1933). Happily the earlier volumes of Memorie di matematica e di fisica della Società Italiana are at the Boston Public Library. I find that, although *V. prostrata* is undoubtedly the American plant which for many years has passed as *V. bracteosa* Michx., Savi's paper, presented for publication September 7, 1801, was not actually issued until 1802; consequently, the name *V. bracteata* Lag & Rodr. in Anal. Cienc. Nat. iv. 260 (1801) is still valid for this species. Unfortunately, however, *V. prostrata* Savi does antedate *V. prostrata* R. Br. in Ait. Hort. Kew. ed. 2: iv. 41 (1812) by ten years. Hence, it is necessary to take up the name *V. lasiostachys* Link, Enum. Hort. Berol. ii. 22 (1822) for the Californian species hitherto known as *V. prostrata* R. Br.—LILY M. PERRY, Gray Herbarium.

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THE COLOR OF THE FLOWERS OF NELUMBO PENTAPETALA.—In the discussion of *Nelumbo pentapetala* (Walt.) Fern. in RHODORA for January 1934, the color of the flowers was said to be white, sometimes passing into a weak whitish yellow, so that Walter's account of them as white was as accurate as Willdenow's characterization of them as yellow. The plant grows or did grow on the Monroe marshes and covered many acres in extent. It also grows in such dense masses on the Upper Maumee Bay and neighboring waters that it may be seen for miles in either direction. The Lotus beds of the Monroe marshes were for a great many years an advertising feature of Monroe to attract tourists and visitors to that city. These have practically disappeared since Michigan put the muskrat under game protection. The rats devoured the rhizomes for food and thus destroyed one of Monroe's flourishing activities. The plants flowered by the thousands every year and visitors were taken out to the beds and allowed to cut the flowers at will and carry them away. I am putting it rather mildly when I say that in the forty years I was at Detroit I probably saw a million such flowers; but never a "white" one. The flowers in southeastern Michigan were always yellow, of a pale sulphur- or lemon-yellow. The petals were upwards of a dozen, often as many as twenty, perhaps sometimes more. If the plant of the Atlantic seaboard has white flowers we probably have two color-forms of the Lotus.—OLIVER A. FARWELL, Lake Linden, Michigan.

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